Children suffering from Cancer

3401. SHRI L. RAMANA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether one and a half lakh to two lakh children suffer from cancer in the country every year;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the reasons therefor; and

(c) the effective steps taken by the Government to remedy the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY) : (a) and ((b) Data on cancer occurance (including paediatirc cancers) is not being routinely collected by all hospitals in India. The data on incidence of cancers is being collected by population based cancer registries functioning under the National Cancer Registry Programme of ICMR since 1982. Based on the data from Population Based Cancer Registries located at Mumbai, Bangalore, Chennai and Delhi an estimated 30,000 children below the age of 15 years developed cancer in India during 1996.

The major paediatric cancers include leukemias, Wilm's tumors, retinoblastoma, brain cancer, lymphomas, etc. The exact aetiology of these cancers is not known. However, family histroy is important in retinoblastoma and leukemia. Down's syndrome and other chromosomal abnormalities, exposure to radiation are also important etiological factors for development of leukemias. AIDS and some other immuno-deficiency states have been found to increase the risk of Hodgkin's lymphoma. Epstein-Barr virus infection is considered to be a risk factor for development of Hodgkin's disease.

(c) In order to combat this problem, Government of India has launched the following scheme under National Cancer Control Programme :-

1. Augmentation of Regional Cancer Centres.
2. Development of Oncology Wings in the Medical Colleges.
3. Installation of Cobalt-60 teletherapy equipment.
4. District cancer control projects.

[English]

Polio Patients

3402. SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH BHATI :
SHRIMATI SHEELA GAUTAM :
SHRIMATI BHAVNABEN DEVRAJ BHAI CHIKHALIA :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the number of polio patients in each State at present;

(b) whether the number of polio patiants have been increased in 1996-97 in comparison to the year 1995-96;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the allocation made for the aradication of polio during Ninth Five Year Plan and the amount released to each State for 1997-98 for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY) : (a) The State-wise number of reported polio cases during 1995 and 1996 is enclosed as statement-I.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) No separate budgetary allocations are made for eradication of polio. However, Expenditure Finance Committee proposed outlay for the 9th Plan period for the Reporductive and Child Health programme is Rs. 5112.53 crores includes allocation for eradication of polio. Fund allocation for 1997-98 would be on similar pattern as was released during 1996-97. The details of State-wise releases for Pulse Polio Immunization made out of the overall cash allocations for Child Survival and Safe Motherhood Programme for 1996-97 is at enclosed as Statement-II. An amount of Rs. 31.22 crores was allocated during 1996-97 to State/UTs for the Pulse Polio Immunization Programme.